



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT CELEBRATING HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH IN WHARTON COUNTY

WHARTON, TEXAS, June 9, 2006 – Representatives of USDA Rural Development will be holding a Housing Showcase for residents of Wharton County on Thursday, June 22, 2006 from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm. The event will be held at the Wharton Civic Center Conference Room, 1944 North Fulton, Wharton, Texas. We will be assisting interested participants in filing applications, answering questions, and facilitating homeownership efforts for Wharton residents.

Hurricane disaster assistance may be provided in Wharton County to build or purchase new homes, or to repair existing dwellings. Hurricane disaster assistance does not require that an applicant be “adversely affected” by the hurricane. Under this designation, applicants do not have to be age 62 or older to receive a Section 504 Grant. Grants may be made up to \$15,000.00 in designated counties, which includes Wharton County. Loan funds up to \$20,000 at a 1% interest rate are also available for necessary repairs and improvements to existing dwellings. Loans up to \$116,500 to purchase or build a home are also available.

“USDA Rural Development is very proud of the assistance we have available for rural residents affected by Hurricane Rita,” said USDA Rural Development State Director, Bryan Daniel.

Housing Programs that are offered by USDA Rural Development include the Guaranteed Housing Loan Program, Direct Housing Loan Program, Home Repair and Rehabilitation Grant Program. Assistance is available to low and moderate income families that live in rural areas.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information, please contact the Edna Local Office at 361-782-7151, Ext. 4, or visit us on the web at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

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